

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1909.

Entered at the Post Office at New York as Secon Class Mall Matter.

Subscriptions by Mail, Postpaid. DAILY, Per Month ... DAILY, Per Year .. SUNDAY, Per Year DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Year. DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Month. Postage to foreign countries added All checks, money orders, &c., to be

payable to THE SUN. Published by the Sun Printing and Publishing dation at 170 Nassau street, in the Borough of Manhattan, New York. President of the Asso-ciation, William M. Laffan, 170 Nassau street; Treasurer of the Association, M. F. Laffan, 170 sau street; Secretary of the Association, D. W.

London office, Effingham House, 1 Arundel street Strand. The daily and Sunday Sun are on sale in London at the American and Colonial Exchange. Carlton street, Regent street, and Daw's Steamship

lay editions are on sale at Kiosque 12, near the Grand Hotel; Klosque 77, Boulevard des Capucines corner Place de l'Opéra, and Klosque 19, Boulevard des Italiens, corner Rue Louis le Grand.

Agency, 17 Green street, Leicester Square,

If our friends who favor us with manuscripts publication wish to have rejected articles returned they must in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

Deep Waterways and Boodle.

The Congress Committee on Water ways has sent home from Europe a quiet but a staggering intimation—an intimation, in fact, to the effect that Congress will not approve the proposed thirteen foot channel "from the lakes to the passes," but will stand fast on nine feet as the maximum. This decision, if it may be so regarded, will not be seriously considered by the deep waterways shouters. They do not care about channels or other insignificant the apostles. things. It makes no difference to them whether the Mississippi's tributaries and confluents will float a battleship or a puddle duck so long as they get the control of the appropriation.

Everybody knows what the real matter is with the river trade. It is not a lack of water in the channels of the various streams, for there is as much water there now as there ever was even in the proudest days of the steamboat business. There is as good a channel at Vicksburg, Memphis, Pine Bluff, Hickman or Cairo as there used to be when the J. M. White, the Robert E. Lee, the Natchez, the Magenta and scores of other boats carried their myriad passengers in luxury and comparative safety and made travel by water a thing to be desired by all who were content to travel at ease and were equipped with something more deliberate than a sample case and a change of cuffs and collars. The river craft have lost their trade to the railroad because they have not kept step with the march of economy and expedition in respect of loading and unloading. The railroads manage these things with mechanical appliances and small reti The river boats still poke their noses into caving banks, sometimes to wait for a letter or a bird cage, but always with an overflowing horde of roustouts, who sing and gamble most of and in any event have to be paid for all of the time. The boats have stood still in this particular, while the railroads forged ahead upon the wing of modern progress. The situation is perfectly intelligible, and the solution of the problem is among the preambles of simplicity.

As we say, however, this hint from the junketers will fall on deadened sensibilities at home. The deep ways convention soon to assemble at New Orleans and to be addressed by President TAPT in his happiest vein is not a stickler for thirteen or any other number of feet. The members of that conquering and convivial body want an priation, not a sordid and comappropriation, not a sordid and com-monplace water gauge at Cape Girardeau or somewhere else. They will accept nine feet or three feet. It is all the same to them. What they ask is the boodle they will do the rest.

The World-Enders at West Duxbury.

at the post village of West Duxbury, before he becomes a student in the the most temporary and spiderlike Mass., of the "Triune Immersionists." as members of a sect also known as the be void." Latter Reign of the Apostolic Church call themselves, to await with prayer in the fall of 1903 and remained there sequences may as well be taken in and singing of hymns the end of the until June, 1906. On February 28, 1906, "the day's work." Why the railroad furnished the Boston newspapers with university, he made a written contract tify themselves against an emergency a topic for humorous treatment, but for room 49 in Matthews Hall for the they know to be practically recurrent BRONSON, a Methodist minister of \$245. He did not return to the uni-Brookline, who came to make a serious | \$245. He did not return to the uni-brookline, who came to make a serious | \$245. He did not return to the uni-brookline, who came to make a serious | \$245. He did not return to the uni-versity for that year, and the academic | have been presented on many previous | ordered, and during its discussion he ran

linr exercises. embled, and he spent an hour with bond for the sum of \$245 in the Municipal year the sugar cane ought to be from them while they professed their faith Court in Brooklyn. and sang and listened to revelations of the inspired among them, most of forth, and the defendants moved to impenetrable mass. These equinoctial whom were women in the cataleptic dismiss the complaint on the grounds; storms flatten it out, of course; they have state and children laboring under emotional excitement. He said afterward a cause of action; had failed to establish sions, for a hundred years. It does not that there was no doubt many of any contract with the defendants; that Judgment was at hand, but it seemed and that it had not been shown that it to him that they were victims of hyp- was registered in the State, as required limbo of assorted roorbacks. notism. He could not understand the by the general corporation law; that "strange tongues" in which they spoke, the plaintiffs' bill of particulars stated strenuous season, but she has had such but one of the sisters or brothers was that the defendants' agreement with seasons before and is none the worse the plaintiffs was to reimburse the for the experience.

There are no brothers was applied the Bertillon system they might find the seasons before and is none the worse them by prints upon the pole, and so all doubts could be solved.

EDWIN W. GRITTEN. tion. There appeared to be some Scan-plaintiffs and pay the sums that may be inavians among the disciples-in fact, due from HENRY KEMPNER for board here were other foreigners—and when or gas or money advanced and that the the congregation was wrought up to a evidence introduced did not show that nitch, of frenzy several messages in he had used any board or gas during service of sin and taking up the arduous ifferent languages or dialects were the time he was a student, and that the card at the same time. The Immeriant The Immeriant Introduced in evidence was land to the time he was a student, and that the contract introduced in evidence was land to the most impressive fact in our languages for introduced in evidence was land to the most impressive fact in our languages for introduced in evidence was land to the most impressive fact in our languages. sionists, however, were not all illiterate made by HENRY KEMPNER while an public life of to-day. It is the Schenecand poor people, and there were more infant without the knowledge of the tady Evening Star which contributes down Riverside Drive Saturday and Star which contributes of the start of the purpose and cost nearly nothing.

Probably a million persons wandered up the purpose and cost nearly nothing. Americans in the gathering than for sureties. In the Municipal Court the the interesting news of another conver- wondering which of the big ships was which, and

being firm in the belief that the said: end of the world was imminent. Most of the believers were from the New learned Court based its conclusion, but we are for at least a year. As the victim of a

Maine being well represented. When the hour of 10 o'clock on Friday

morning came and the cataclysm predicted had not occurred the faithful continued to sing and pray under the inspiration of their leaders, who had been much encouraged by a portent of black clouds in the east the evening before. The end of the world was then set for 6 o'clock. The Rev. J. C. Osgood, pastor of the Immersionists, 2 00 consented to make a guarded statement s oe to a sceptical reporter:

"We are in the closing days. Probably not more than one-tenth of our people are looking for the coming of the Lord to day, but all the signs show that his coming will be soon. This is the 10th day of Tisri, a day on which momentous events may be expected. The Lord may not come to-day, and He may not come for a year, but we shall keep on praising Him, for we know

encased in a pair of overalls, was busy cleaning out a feed bucket at his house, and soon excused himself on the plea that he wanted to "slick up" for the afternoon service at the church. Although all the brothers and sisters had been warned not to talk to reporters. they manifested the greatest curiosity to see newspaper accounts of their exercises. They did not neglect their it is fairly what the contract meant to intelligent meals; nor did the women fail to prink men when it was made, and it should not be their hair and give the right touch to their finery when the ungodly regarded them with no spiritual interest. But to unbelievers the most significant thing of all was the frequency of collections at the services. Perhaps a Boston newspaper was justified in publishing the following bulletin from the camp:

9:18 A. M.-Chorus, "This Is the Day." 9:22 A. M .-- A few farewell kisses by the breth

9:46 A W ... A few refreshments 9:49 A. M. Dead silence, hopeful waiting by

sual clam digging on the beach. 10:00 A. M .- World still whirling on.

10:01 A. M.-Postponement of the great event

10:03 A. M .- Still one more little collect It was quite natural that the neighbors began to complain of the "Triune Immersionists" as a nuisance. They with their rapturous singing, and the this warning were sounded we don't tolic Church could long survive. The roads not only the Louisville and Nash melancholy thing about the delusion was that the devout gave freely of their for a collection, so that they steadily impoverished themselves. There was Carré and Manchae districts has susevidently a beneficiary, perhaps more tained severe losses. These melothan one, but in matters of the spirit dramas, however, touch only heartless the law does not seem to be active or even concerned; although when there is no creed involved and the designing thrive it is often invoked.

The Contract With the College. The decision of the Appellate Division

educational corporations and parents far as we can hear, however, there has or guardians of children therein has been no considerable loss of life, even spondents, OTTO KEMPNER and OTTO cays the worst was there experienced: H. DROEGE, on April 29, 1903, made and truly pay, or cause to be paid, promptly siderable damage to crops, sugar houses, fishing unto the said president and fellows of Harvard College * * * the whole of said president and fellows from HENRY sums as shall become due to said president and fellows for board or gas, or for money advanced therefor * * together with such sums as may be the exception of great damage to the charged to him * * * for the rent railroads and to fishing and hunting of any room which may be assigned to camps, which for some occult reason The gathering during the last week him, in accordance with his application, the proprietors persist in building on

university, then this obligation shall plans, the so-called tempest has done world, has attracted the curious and in accordance with the usage of the there was one observer, the Rev. DILLON year 1906-07, agreeing to pay therefor we do not pretend to say. The facts study of the fanatics and their pecu- authorities after trying unsuccessfully to rent the room for his account charged Mr. Bronson was admitted to the the rental to him, and on payment sugar crops, we may safely dismiss them scattered through his whole career of exbuilding where the faithful were as- being refused brought action on the with indifference. At this season of the periment and discovery up to the very

England States, Massachusetts and of the opinion that it was error to dismiss the complaint. The bond in evidence clearly shows a contract between the plaintiff and def is was entered into for the purpose of securing to the plaintiff the payment of the expenses of HENRY KEMPNER during his college course, and the whole defence is a quibble. The young man evidently following the usages of the universit year of 1908-07, just as the bond fairly contem plated should be done, and the mere fact that for some reason he was prevented from returning does not relieve his sureties from the obligat damages

"A fair sample of the reasoning indulged in to support the judgment is found in the contention that under the terms of the bond the defendant are not liable because the room was not assigned to him before he became a student of the university. The term of the bond, it will be remembered, was that it was to secure the payment among other things, 'for the rent of any roor which may be assigned to him, in accordance with his application, before he becomes a student of the university,' and the respondents point out in their brief that this room 'was not assigned assigned to him before he enters the university but for 'any room which may be assigned to him. in accordance with his application' to become a student of the university. That is the only intelligent construction of the language used, and defeated by any forced construction.

"It is not necessary to discuss the suggest that plaintiff, in accepting a surety bond, is with the provisions of the general corporation law of this State, or that the defendants have any standing to raise the question of HENRY KEMP-NER's infancy. The very object of the bond was to secure the plaintiff against the contracts of infants; was to provide against losses due to irresponsible students. The defendants under took to say that they would see that his contracts were carried out within the limits of his obligaions as a student of the university, and if HENRY KEMPNER made a contract within the scope of the authority conferred under the bond they are bound to meet the obligation."

The case was sent back to the Municipal Court for trial.

After the Hurricane.

The story of the storm in the far Southwest is tragic enough, but upon examination not as tragic as it seemed at first. The special fury of the hurrithe coast west of New Orleans and certainly made the night intolerable upon that part of the eastern shore between the Rigoleto, twenty miles east villagers believed that the clamor was of the city, and Bay St. Louis, fifty the danger of ballooning, for a careless reproach to West Duxbury, which miles nearer Mobile. The latter region use of the fluid might destroy the car or derives some importance from the is a flat country almost entirely sea French cable that comes ashore only a marsh and presenting no sacrifices to few miles away. Hundreds came to the storm except the railroad tracks and scoff, but none remained to pray. At trestles and the various flimsy homes of last accounts the end of the world had hunting and fishing clubs which popubeen postnoned for fifty years, although late the intervening thirty miles. Here it might happen at any hour. Unless the devastation was very great, but not noticeably personal. Some weeks will see how the Latter Reign of the Apos- be consumed in reinstating the railalready mentioned, but also the Illinois substance, were indeed always ready Central, which runs straight north from New Orleans, and which in the Bonnet corporations and may be dismissed with philosophic unconcern.

Of course the disturbance was not confined within these narrow limits. It extended far west of New Orleans, especially including Terrebonne parish. seventy miles or so toward the setting of the Supreme Court for the Second sun, and many other neighborhoods Department in a case of interest to all where rice and sugar cane prevail. So sheets of the Law Reports. The re- Gulf coast, although as the Picayune

" In the surrounding country the storm was delivered a bond in which the condition severely felt, the damage being greatest west of was that "if the above bounden obligors, the Mississippi River, the centre of the sterm their heirs, executors and administra- having passed some little distance to the west of tors or either of them shall well and this city. On the lower coast there has been concamps and buildings, and very high water has been experienced, but so far there have been no such sums as may become due to the exposed localities have been heard from this encouraging aspect of affairs may be modified, but KEMPNER, * * including all such there is general hope that no serious disaster has followed in the wake of the storm, as has so often been the rule in the past."

Altogether, it would appear that with not so much harm in fact as the storm The student entered the university of 1906 and other years, and the concompanies persistently refuse to for-

As for losses in connection with the six to eight feet high. Planted in rows The plaintiffs proved the facts set seven feet apart it forms an almost materially hurt the cane, and the result

For the rest, Louisiana has had a very

A Brand From the Burning. The fashion in which our politicians are becoming good, laying aside the know of any good reason why United States war igners. One man, who came from complaint was dismissed. In reversing sion of a former brutal boss to the high cers with his wife, had given up a the Municipal Court the Appellate Divi- moral platform. Its reference, of course Tonkers with his wife, had given up a the Municipal Court the Appellate Divi-good position and sold his furniture. sion, Justice Woodward writing the is to the Hon. W. W. WEMPLE, once a A Virginian, a man of considerable decision, in which Justices JENKS, State Senator and leader in political alth, had also disposed of his prop- GAYNOR, BURR and RICH concurred, power in the vicinity of his home.

The story of WEMPLE has served as "We are not informed upon what ground the lesson in every political Sunday school dome of the tower

to warn the wicked and inspire the good. For WEMPLE, as is well known, is one of those unhappy beings who voted against that bill which "brought racetrack gambling to an end" in this most virtuous community. Notwithstanding the fact that clergymen visited him personally and thundered exhortations from the pulpit, WEMPLE remained unregenerate. As a result when the votes were counted on last election day, sin was rebuked, the moral law vindicated, and WEMPLE remained away from Albany.

A bitter lesson this, that the Hon. W W. WEMPLE was forced to learn in the hardest of our schools. As a wise man, however, he learned it. How well is shown by the following comment of the Star:

" Last Sunday afternoon a large congregation gathered at the Union Presbyterian Church, of which the Rev Dr Mills is pastor and where the Rev. Dr. Apaks preached a powerful sermor against the Sunday saloon. If there is one place been favored it is in the Sunday saloon. After the discourse a petition calculated to bring about the closing of the Sunday saloon was circulated Senator was there. He was there with both fee so to speak. He walked right up front and put his name on that petition, and naturally those who were after the signatures were pleased. anical ' element." But why does the Star say "listed"

Does it mean to cast any shadow upon the sincerity of the Hon. W. W. WEM-PLR? We hope not. In a time when self-confessed goodness publicly proclaimed is the beginning of all political popularity, does it imagine that the most hardened sinners will not take their profit? We do not mean to imply that the Hon. W. W. WEMPLE is a hardened sinner, not in the least. On the contrary, we recognize him as a fully converted politician. If any one hereafter outruns him in the pursuit of moral issues, with voting attachments, we shall be more surprised than grieved.

Until the French dirigible military bal oon République exploded near Moulins and four army officers were killed by falling from a height of several hundred feet this type of airship was supposed to be cane appears to have descended upon about as safe as the spherical balloon. In France many hundreds of ascents have been made in cars attached to inflated bags without accident. The introduction ignite the envelope above it, but in the operation of dirigibles the violence of the wind seemed to be more feared than the inflammable and explosive gasolene carried. The destruction of the République involving the loss of four valuable officers will no more deter the War Department from continuing its experiments with dirigible airships than the sinking of a submarine with all on board stone the training of men to fight under the sea. ville, which runs through the region The dirigible balloon has proved its value warfare. Recently the République was used in the French man puvres and was the means of discovering to the army of defence the plane of the enemy. More nen are usually killed in the opening skirmish of a campaign than would probably be lost in fifty years of experim with airships by a war department

THE FIRST STEAMBOAT FARE Story Credited to the Ploneer Pay Passenger.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I believe the subjoined tale will be of interest in the Hud-son-Fulton celebration week. The author is not named in the source from which I take it. (Mrs.) CARRIE E. DOTT. BURLINGAME, Kan., September 22.

One of the most interesting incidents of business nature is that which concerns

The parrator of this, who was one of the actors in the scene, says: "I chanced to be at Albany on business when Fulton arrived, and hearing that the new craft was about to return to New York I went on board and saw the inventor. I found him to be a plain. passage down with him. He replied. the amount to be paid and he named a sum. se I believe. I laid the sum in coin in his open hand, but he remained so long motionless with his eye fixed upon the money that I thought there might be some mistake and asked if the sum was right. The question roused him and he looked up, his eyes brimming with tears, and said, 'Pardon me, but which is the first reward of its kind that have ever received for my efforts to adapt steam to navigation. I should be glad if I were able to commemorate the occasion with you over a bottle of wine, but I am too this will not be the case.

I trust we may meet again when "The voyage was successful, as every one knows, and terminated without an acci-dent. Some years after this when Fulton had a fleet of three boats plying regularly between New York and Albany I met him again. He was seated in the cabin as I came in and I saw him glance at me as passed him. Immediately after he rushed to me, crying, 'I know it must rapidly yet vividly over his experience the world's coldness and sneers, and of the

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Touching and concerning Dr. Cook and his discovery of the north pole. I am interested in a statement made by my friend who was present at the recepti given yesterday to the Arctic hero and who he the pleasure and the honor of grasping his hand. My friend was astonished to find the doctor's these people really believed the Day of the plaintiff was a foreign corporation of the harvest is not importantly affected. We may safely dismiss that to the and denuded he immediately declared that the good man had never reached the pole. Could

you inform me?

I know that the police read a man's trade from the peculiarities of his hands. Perhaps if they JERSEY CITY, September 22.

For Inquiring Landlubbers.

g ships wer. ildn't answer. R. W. J. NEW YORK. September 25. Job for McGowan.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Str: Will THE SUN, which looks out on the City Hall every day have the flagpole alongside the statue of Justice It takes away from the beauty of the

NEW YORK, September 35.

To threat or wreck my aeroplane So safely I fare
Speeding through the air;
There's nothing at all
To deter me—but a fall— From circling the sky's high road!

misinterpreted moral issue he has served BLACK CONSCRIPTS IN EUROPE. IN DEFENCE OF THE FARMER.

Not long ago THE SUN described an interesting military scheme put forward by Colonel Mangin of the French army for utilizing the colonial poss his country as an offset against the supe rior birth rate and therefore more abundant conscription of Germany by extending to the Arabs of Algeria and the negroes of French West Africa a proportion compulsory representation and enrolment under the tricolor and importing them to France in case of war. This plan when first suggested received the influential indorsement of the Paris Temps, which at the present moment at least is more than any other journal the accredited spokesman of the Quai d'Orsay. and since then M. Cochery, Minister Finance, who recently made a tour of inquiry in Africa, has added the seal of his official approval to it and expressed the conviction that budgetary provision for realizing the scheme should be made without delay.

It was not to be supposed that the threat

of an innovation so momentous to Germany would pass uncriticised by the pres of the fatherland, and lately a good deal has been said about it on the eastern side of the Rhine. The Germans' opportunity of adding to their armed power from simllar sources is much smaller and in the practical point of distance and transportation much inferior to that enjoyed by France. Accordingly the German criticism of Colonel Mangin's idea has been universally hostile and indeed sufficiently bitter to impress upon the French the signal merits of it for themselves. The attacks of the German newspapers have followed two lines; the first, displaying some naiveté, has asserted that the blacks would be worthless against European troops and as yet have not proved themselves valuable in any circumstances The Strassburger Post, for instance, remarks that the modern colonial conquests of France have been due not to black soldiers but to the "foreign legion" of white men. While this is partly true of Madagascar and Indo-China it does not apply to the Congo or West Africa, where since 1892 black troops unsupported by white forces have carried out all the operations. In any case the question raised is one on which the French must be left to judge for themselves, and the solicitude of the Strassburg newspaper for the efficiency of France's arms is not likely to weigh heavily at Paris.

The other line of attack, exemplified by the Kreuzzeitung of Berlin with much violence, is more obvious and valid, so far as the plea it advances has any validity left in it to-day. The Kreuzzeitung accuses France of lèse humanité for even thinking of introducing African cannibals to a European battlefield. There has in fact been a sort of historical etiquette in Europe in the past against the employment of colored soldiers within the limits of Western civilization, but no ground valid in international law can be cited in support of this exclusion, and to all practical purposes it was exploded by our war of secession. Black troops there fought against white on an equal footing without displaying any abnormal savagery and without lowering the United States in the eyes of the world. In fact if the French scheme is realized, as it is quite likely to be, for the leaders of French thought are now hot for it, we shall have to bear some responsibility for the step; the precedent of our colored troops is being continually urged by the advocates in Paris. These allege that since blacks are capable of being raised to the same degree of discipline as whites, as was shown on American battlefields, they are entitled to the same rights and consideration in the universal usages of war. It is possible of course that in the event of a European conflict the Germans would refuse to recognize colored troops as legitimate belligerents, but that refusal could only lead to reprisals in kind too terrible to be contemplated.

JAMBALAY A.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Observing a disposition on the part of various correspondents to discuss the merits and position of that moderately delects ble dish the "Irish stew," it has occurred to me to ask whether and how many of the that king of all dishes "lambalava." many respects it is like the famous Creole "gombo file," but only in respect of the difficulty, not to say impossibility, of get-ting it at any restaurant, even the best, To get gombo file in its perfection you must go to a private house. It is too compli-cated and too expensive for any well regulated restaurant. As regards jambalaya, the rule holds good, only more so. You cah Orleans, but seldom have I seen the real thing. Ir the old days, away back in the '70s, there were a chosen lot of us living on Bayou Teche, Bayou Bouf, and elsewhere used to get aboard the oyster luggers and eighty miles west of New Orleans, for purposes of hunting. The commanders of these luggers were so-called Italians, though I always thought they might be Greeks, and they invariably well. They would put us off at the island and call for us on their return, and their favorite fodder was jambalaya, which they prepared in a sort of chafing dish or casserole. The component parts of iambalaya, as they prepared it, were oys ters, rice, and the breasts of ducks, see of course in their peculiar way, with per pers, &c. I have never tasted anything to compare with the jambalaya of the Berwick's Bay oystermen. Maybe it was the exposure and the salt air, but I think not. think, in fact, that it is the finest dish and the most wholesome ever set before mortal PELICAN. NEW ORLEANS, September 23.

The Pride of the Commuter TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I see it your correspondence columns to day a communi-cation from Bloomfield. N. J. This pretty little hamlet, which one sees from the car wine the way to Montclair, the terminal station, is accessible from the latter city by a troiley which runs all the way. It is said to be healthy and eneficial to confirmed insomniacs. MONTCLAIR, N. J., September 25.

The High Road.

Oh, I'm happy on the high road of the sky-Here's no mile post or telegraph pole, No dusenberry, ditch, or dog or hole— The trees are left below. The pig and the wall, The precipice and all

Are minus on the sky's high road!

Oh. I'm hap we on the high road of the sky-No menacing men I descry: It's farewell to the motor and the bike, To any earth crawler you may like; For here I may apeed,

To slacken there's no need. For there's never a cop
To make a man stop
Speeding on the sky's high road!

Oh. I'm happy on the high road of the sky-The deadly auto I decry: Here's no sudden curve or narrow lane leaving him a net profit of \$47 per acr

Does Not Fix the Prices of Products; His

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Severs of your "esteemed contemporaries" and THE SUN itself have recently "lambasted" farmers for their wasteful methods an held them responsible for the high prices o

I am not a farmer, and may not be justified speaking for working farmers, but I was orn on a farm, saw it from the inside hood, and some seventeen years later had another tussle with the soil for fourteer years as fruit grower, gardener and chicker preeder, and consequently I feel able to write at least as learnedly on the subject as hose editors who never heard a rooste except a long way off-nor saw potato, except on a fork as it passed to the place nature designed for potatoes to go to

Are farmers wasteful in their b Wes, in many cases, possibly in most cases. In the first place their farms are too large for the capital invested and the skill used in managing them. One-half or two-thirds of the land sold at any price, or in some case given away, and the rest cultivated on the "intensive" system, and the owner would have more money and more credit. Shalow ploughing is a wasteful system; elaborate fencing and pasturage near cities of growing villages are wasteful; the neglect to keep accounts of sales and purchases involves waste; the needless exposure of farr nachinery and tools to the weather is waste ful and dairying is sure to involve wast of his cows pays for her board and which does not. There are other leaks, lots of them, which collectively are sure to keep a farmer out of the income he needs unless

nd remembers that life is too short to learn ill that a farmer should know. It is the routine farmer, the man who runs is farm just as his father did before him and just as he was taught to do, who de-

and just as he was taught to do, who deserves the censure of the press. His mind is not open to conviction or study. He stands in the way of progress and brings discredit on his calling. When a man has no other reason for his course than that his ancestors followed that course he shows a narrowness pretty sure to bring him to poverty if persevered in long enough. Now as to prices, what has the farmer to do with prices? Somebody else makes the prices. Who does it? It is always a mystery how or where prices originate for either necessaries or luxuries. They go up and they go down. Who sets the prices we pay or what justifies them is not known. It is easy enough at auction sales, but not in the case of that vague and elusive thing we call the market. Certainly it is not the farmer.

we call the market. Certainly it is not the farmer.

Supply and demand govern prices, it is said. Not always. Corners do it sometimes. But if supply and demand is the rule, why complain? It might be inferred from complaints in the newspapers that most farmers are getting rich. If so, why do not the poor of the cities make a "break" for the country at once? It is said that they congest the cities, hence they cannot believe in rural attractions. Farm lands are cheap and farmers would be delighted to employ good men and women, but the city poor see the disabilities of country life and shun them. Farming is hard work. It used to be "from sun to sun" for all; now for employees it is only ten hours, while the proprietors work often fifteen or more. Wages are high and help unreliable; hence the farmer does all he can himself to economize and make both ends meet. He wears seedy clothes on sundays. He is generally awkward in company, not getting enough "so-lett" it week the arms.

with stooping work; and too much of which the dictionaries cali "colloquialism" marks his speech.

Still the charge is that farm products are so high that farmers are getting rich. Indeed! Did you ever see a farmer amass a million, half a million, or even a hundred thousand dollars? Are farmers' sons enticed to stay on the farm by the brilliant chances for early wealth that their calling offers? Not much. Men do not shun hard work when the pay is satisfactory. The farm has one advantage for bright boys that tells in city competition—they are trained to economy and endurance, and if determined to be rich by hook or by crook they generally succeed. Farming has more attractions than it had seventy years ago. The social isolation is less; machinery has largely supplanted hand labor; books, magazines and newspapers keep the farmer and his children from mental stagnation, and better clothes, better horses and other live stock, with better vehicles and more neighborly intercourse, make him more presentable. In a word, he lives better, and he deserves to; but as to getting rich or getting prices that outrage the consumer neighborly intercourse, make him more presentable. In a word, he lives better, and he deserves to; but as to getting rich or getting prices that outrage the consumer—nonsense! Many farm products sell much as they did sixty or seventy years ago. Among these are wheat, rye and corn. Oats and buckwheat are higher. Butter, eggs and milk are higher, due to a greater demand from a greater percentage of consumers. The farmer who peddles milk in city or village probably does not net as much as he did formerly because of greater care and cost in production. Beef is higher, due not so much to scarcity as to Chicago monopolists. Pork averages no higher:

care and cost in production. Beef is higher, due not so much to scarcity as to Chicago monopolists. Pork averages no higher: about 1812 it brought \$8 a hundred pounds, and from \$8 to \$8 in the later 408.

If farm products now average higher in price in recent years it is as it should be, for farm labor is higher, more than doubted. My father could hire young men of the neighborhood for \$8 a month with board and washing; now it costs \$18 and often more, and is not as good. Some girl of the vicinity could be hired for housework for a dollar a week, sometimes less, board included; but she was not subject to caste treatment and kept in the background. She was a member of the family, ate at the same table and sat in the same pew at church. Now neither native nor foreign servants are to be had in the country for love or money. The stigma attached to domestic service debars the native from such work, while the foreign born clings to the city at almost any price she demands.

Persons investing in real estate expect to net 6 per cent, and falling are disappointed. The farmer who nets that interest from his land above his living and farm expenses is a lucky man, a sort of rural prodigy. Railway investors make it or the stock goes below par. Other stock companies make it, and often twice or thrice as much, but there is no call on them to reduce prices. Printers and publishers make it or change their business. Bankers make it and much more, or try something else. The dream of every business man is to make that much at least, and as much more as is possible, when, should not the farmer do it if possible, especially as his business supports every honest calling, and some not so honest? A single short crop in this country, say two-thirds below the average for twenty years, would bring on the worst business derangement this country has every honest calling, and some not so honest? A single short crop in this country, say two-thirds below the average for twenty years, would bring on the worst business derangement this country h

seen. Why there is a seen why there is a seen which is an of year?

It is all right to abuse the farmer for his sins of neglect, but not for prices which he does not fix, nor for the modest profits which make farm life endurable.

PHILIP SNYDER.

POUGHKEEPSIE, September 25.

Smaller Farms in Virginia.

From the Richmond Times-Dispatch.
Virginia farmers are ceasing to be land poor and are becoming crop rich. They are seeing the fallacy of the old agricultural order, which the fallacy of the old agricultural order, which bid a man to scrape the surface of many acres on broomsedge farms and give little attention to a dozen fields. They are discovering that the intensive cultivation of a score of acres or so is more profitable than the extensive neglect of a thousand. They are putting into the bank profits which formerly were charged to the other side of the ledger as taxes.

profits which formerly were charged to the other side of the ledger as taxes.

A section of Prince William has been transformed by a division into small farms. A colony of Dunkards from the valley set-led around Manassas and bought many acres of run down, neglected farm lands. They divided them into small tracts and applied to them the best principles of igiensive agriculture. As a result, "worn out" lands are to-day yielding magnificent crops, a wilderness has been reclaimed and farm "worn out" lands are to-day yielding magnificent crops, a wilderness has been reclaimed and farm values have been trebled. Virginia lands to-day, after almost 200 years of cultivation, will yield as bountiful crops as virgin soil if only they are cultivated closely and skilfully. If they are neglected and if they are farmed on a large scale by insufficient labor they cannot be expected to afford more than a bare living for un-

happy owners.

Examples of the latter system are seen everywhere is dilapidated farmhouses, lean stock and barren fields. Examples of the other sort can be seen in other places than the Dunkard district. seen in other places than the Dunkard district. Some years ago—to cite a single instance—a Scotch immigrant bought twenty-four acres of Virginia farm land, of which eight acres were unusable. On a plough area of less than twenty acres this man raised a year's crop that brought him \$1,000. His expenses and the interest on his investment did not amount to more than \$250, leaving him a net profit of \$250, leaving him and him \$250, leaving him and him

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: "A man who will not willingly hurt the feelings of another" I believe constitutes a gentleman. THOMPSON, Conn., September 25.

HALLEY'S COMET.

me Interesting Facts About a Coming Visitor.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUNwords respecting that most famous of comets—the most famous of the 800 or more comets which have been recorded—Halley's comet, may be both interesting and instructive. Halley's comet was perhaps seen as early as B. C. 11, and perhaps in the years A. D. 66, A. D. 141, and at intervals of about three constants. A. D. 66, A. D. 141, and at intervals or adout three-quarters of a century. To the comet was given the name of Halley because Edmund Halley (1856-1742) had predicted that it would reappear in 1759. Halley's comet was last seen in 1885-36 (August to May), so it will be noted that it is now time for another reappearance.

Comets are of times of vast dimensions, and of Halley's comet in 1825 annotation.

the head of Halley's comet in 1835 approx-imated 357,000 miles. The head of another comet, the comet of 1811, approximated 1,200,000 miles. The tails of comets are of course even of greater dimensions, 10,000,-000 to 100,000,000 miles in length. Comets have often an enormous thickness, esti-mated at hundreds of thousands of miles Comets have what is known as a "period," the time that elapses before their reap-pearance. As has been said, this period seventy-five to seventy-six years in the case of Halley's comet, while in the case of Encke's comet the period is about three and one-third years.

CHARLES NEVERS HOLMES.
BOSTON, September 25.

THE DESIRE FOR IMMORTALITY. Better Annihilation Than Another State With the Past a Blank.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: I am utterly unable to understand how any kind tinuity of self-consciousness, or memory of what has preceded physical death, can be regarded as anything but annihilation so far possible to perceive how it can be regarded as either desirable or undesirable. If I am to awake to-morrow morning precisely the same person in physical appearance, character, temperament and mentality that I am to-day, but with the past blotted out, with no knowledge of the relations I have estab-I have incurred, my environment entirely

lished with the world or the responsibilities. I have incurred, any environment entirely strange to me and the consciousness of continuity never again to return. I surely do not consider it preferable to being utterly annihilated.

It might interest me as a curious objective phenomeno to know that there was a man identically like me living say in Chicago, but it certainly would give me no satisfaction to hear on my death bed that this man was in good hoelth and likely to five many more years; y'd on the theory that immortality without consciousness of identity is desirable you ought in such a case, assuming it possible, to feel gratified at having an extra lease of life.

Personally! I should feel much happier to know that a better sort of man was surviving me. As the subje - must necessarily be treated egotistically I will say that so far as I am able to analyze it my own desire for immortality is due to the feeling that unless something far better than anything the world can provide is in store for me. and unless when it arrives I recognize myself as the same person who hoped for it to-day, then I am the victim of a colossal hoax.

All the progress of humanity, I am convinced, has its foundation in the belief or at least in the recognition of the possibility of immortality. Even the most sceptical have to admit that the evidence on one side is as good as that which can be brought forward for the other, and few if any later, order their lives on the assumption that there is nothing after death. If there are any who actually out the world as soon as life ceases to hold attractions for them. In short, if there is no immortality, postarity, if it ever arrives at those heights of human perfection progress.

cally ouit the world as soon as life ceases to hold attractions for them. In short, if there is no immortality, postarity, if it ever arrives at those heights of human perfection progress toward which, some sceptics assert, should be regarded as ample compensation to the toiling millions that have gone before, it will have reached those heights on the strength of a delusion nourished through countless ages, in the absence of which the highest ideal of human existence would not have been higher than that of the lowest animal.

To speak vulgarly, humanity will have been buncoed or will have buncoed itself into a state of perfection. If it is possible to find consolation in the thought of an ideal posterity whose welfare we can never share, should it not also be possible to weep gennine, not merely sentimental, toaks over the hardships and tragedles of the ancients? For my part I am sure that we should be entirely unconcerned about fine welfare of posterity did we not encertain more or less, vaguely the belief that we will be conscious sharers or witnesses of it.

BROOKLYN, September 25.

SPIRITUAL TRUTH,

Among Theologians and Scientists

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: It to strange that a man of the erudition of Goldwin Smith should find difficulty in account-ing for the postponement of the Redemption and Incarnation. The history of the re-ligious brought from the plateaus of Asia shows that they are but preparatory for higher thought. They all teach of recurring life as a means of spiritual development through physical reincarnation in higher or lower forms, according to the just decree of nature. The Jewish people with God, but, as he says, their sole idea of a hereafter was confined "to Sheol, an of a hereafter was confined "to Sheol, an abode of gloom," that is, a place of waiting Until nature had evolved its highest physical development of the spiritual it was not ready for a supernatural enlargement.

This is acquired by a mental process freed from physical restraint. When the In-

This is acquired by a mental process freed from physical restraint. When the Incarnation took place the Jewish people had ceased to exist as a governing power. Punishment is but the enforcement of the laws of nature for anti-natural offences. The division of the Trinity in this and all other respects is but the creative, supernatural and constructive powers of one God, respectively acting independently of each other, but with one accord.

The dimculties theologians and scientists experience in accepting exact religious thought are due to the seeming contradictions in the basis of their acquired knowledge. For instance, when they speak of the world they mean this earth on which we dwell, instead of the vast material creation of which we form but a small conception through astronomy. When they speak of man they mean the inhabitants of this earth, not comprehending the absurdity of the thought that the dwelling place of the Creator is to be fixed by the working forces of this speck of earth. The living organisms working in a single individual put the thought to shame. When they speak of Adam as the first man they assume that he was made on this globe instead of where the physical forces of nature were capable of producing a perfect individual, as we know she can produce a flawless diamond when the conditions are right. It is probably true that Adam lived on this earth 5,000 years ago and that the white races of this globe are the children of his natural body, as the other races are of his conception or spiritual creating; but his first place of birth is not here, it is barred to him and his race, though it may not be to races born through his conception. Through the new Adam, the Christ, we deserve heaven or merit hell according to the knowledge in spiritual experience attendant on the will to acquire spiritual truth, and is responsible knowledge.

Leenis Brags.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Isn't this doing pretty well for a little Jersey town? Leonia is represented in eight of the periodicals this month—and perhaps in more.

A Leonia artist designed the cover for one of the oldest of the newer magazines: another made the cover for one of its greatest rivals; still an-other has a notable illustration in a third magaother has a notable intestation in a third maga-sine of prominence, while a fourth has two pic-tures in a weekly that is circulated widely; and another in the oldest magazine of sil; and three other magazines contain "literary work" made in

Leonia. N. J., September 25.

Qualifications for the Ballot.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Is a woman 6 feet 9 inches tall. I mean 5 feet 3 inches with a hat that makes the difference, and which in altitude and latitude cuts off the vision of 680 persons trying tiptoed and sideways in a crow to see the Half Moon—mostly women an children—(no, cut out that "women and children entitled to er—um—well, I will put the question and hase the consequences: Is she entitled